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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RCGRAHAM/HLK
APPROVED BY D - WARREN CHRISTOPHER
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 278192
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, UY, US
SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S MEETING WITH
WILSON FERREIRA
REF: MVD 5879

1. FORMER SENATOR WILSON FERREIRA, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SON JUAN RAUL, MET WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ON NOVEMBER 15. MR. CHRISTOPHER BEGAN WITH THE STATEMENT THAT THIS APPOINTMENT WAS CONSISTENT WITH OUR POLICY OF SHARING VIEWS WITH ALL PEOPLE AND GROUPS INTERESTED IN POSITIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS. IT WAS NOT BEING HELD IN A SPIRIT OF HOSTILITY TOWARDS THE GOU. WE VALUE OUR RELATIONS WITH URUGUAY AND WANT TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES OF THAT GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE MADE KNOWN OUR CONCERNS TO THE GOU ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

2. MR. CHRISTOPHER THEN STATED THAT OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS LOOK BROADLY TO THREE CATEGORIES OF RIGHTS: RIGHTS

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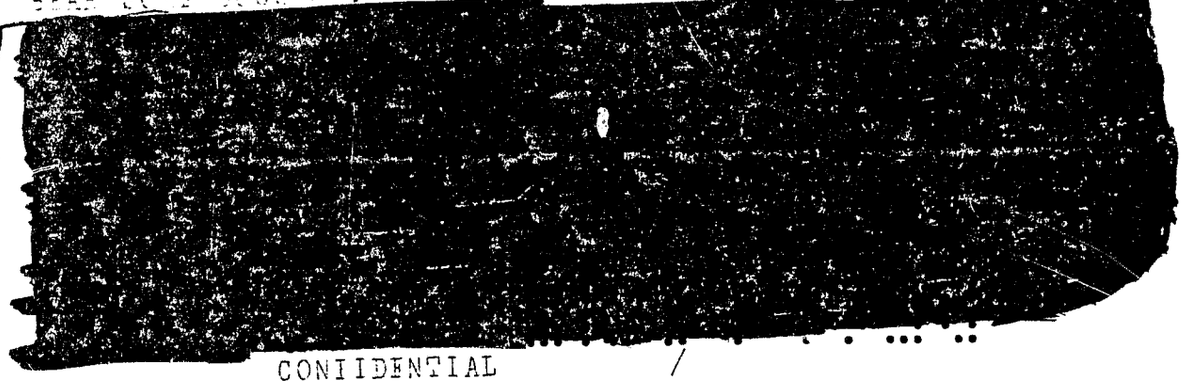
OF THE PERSON; ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS; AND POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS. WHILE NONE OF THESE CATEGORIES HAD ABSOLUTE PRIORITY, WE HAD TENDED TO CONCENTRATE IN THE CASE OF URUGUAY ON PERSONAL RIGHTS AND ON A RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE ARE WORKING AS EFFECTIVELY AS WE CAN, AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT OUR EFFORTS WILL BEAR SOME SUCCESS.



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EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY L Mann DATE 5/7
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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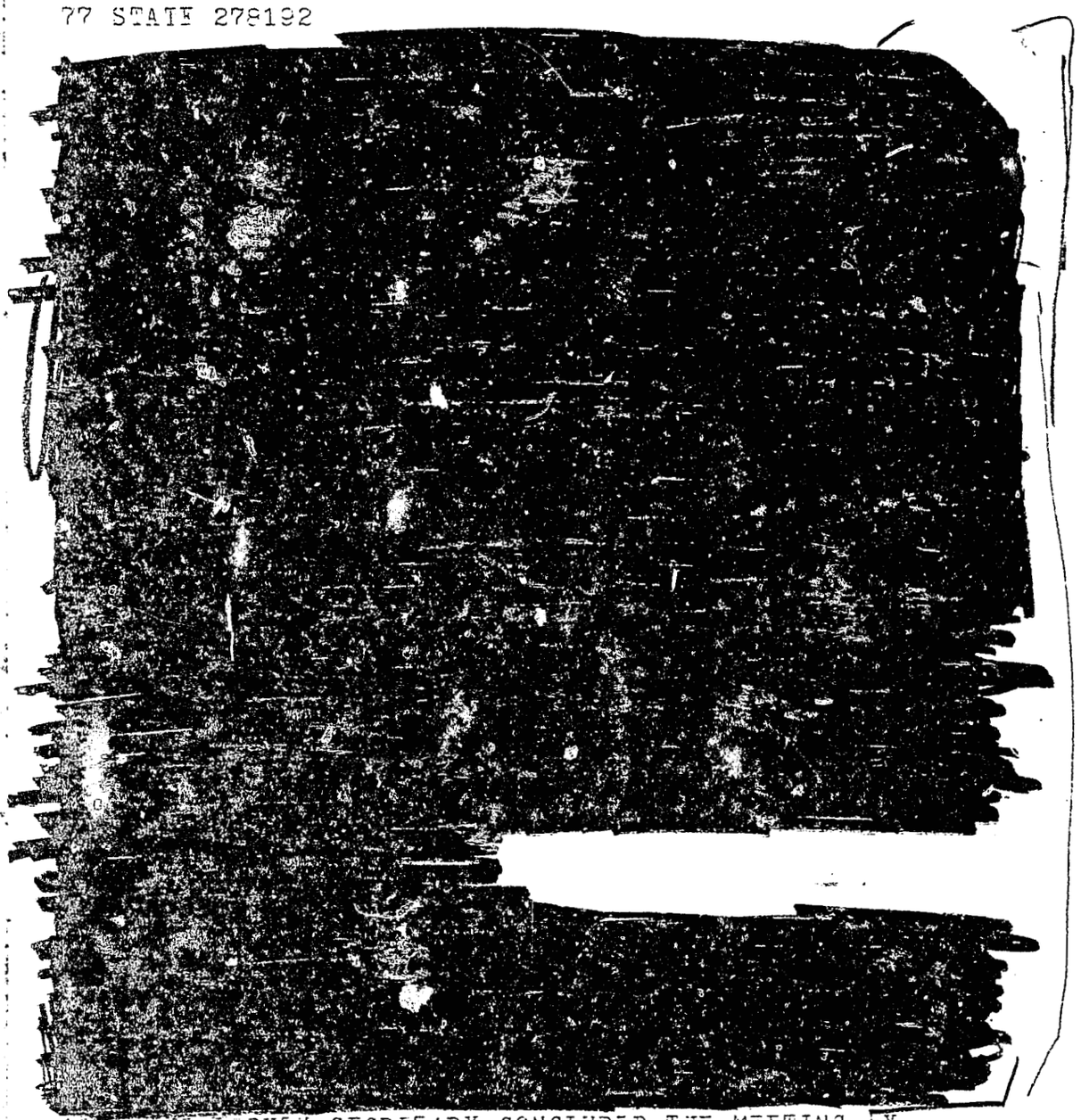

13. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY STATING THAT ONE REASON WE ARE SO CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRESENT SITUATION IN URUGUAY IS BECAUSE WE KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT URUGUAY'S STRONG DEMOCRATIC TRADITION. IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD, MR. CHRISTOPHER OBSERVED, THAT OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IS GOVERNMENTAL AND DOES NOT EXTEND TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. OUR GOAL MUST BE TO TRY TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH EXISTING STRUCTURES, AND NOT BY DE-STABILIZING GOVERNMENTS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON THIS ISSUE AS EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE AND ARE GLAD TO HAVE ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION AS PROVIDED BY SENATOR FERREIRA THROUGH WOLA.

14. AT THE NOON BRIEFING ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS READ BY THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.

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THERE WERE NO QUESTIONS.
QUOTE: URUGUAY: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FORMER URUGUAYAN SENATOR WILSON FERREIRA.
DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER MET TODAY WITH FORMER SENATOR WILSON FERREIRA ALDUNATE OF URUGUAY. SENATOR FERREIRA SOUGHT THE MEETING THROUGH THE WASHINGTON OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA. MR. CHRISTOPHER AGREED TO MEET WITH HIM IN KEEPING WITH OUR POLICY OF EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH A BROAD SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL LEADERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN THEIR COUNTRY. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER REVIEWED THE HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND TOLD SENATOR FERREIRA THAT WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT, THROUGH OUR CONTINUING BILATERAL
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EFFORTS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT MENDEZ AND PRESIDENT CARTER, THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN THAT COUNTRY. UNQUOTE. VANCE
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